

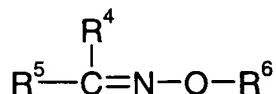
Remarks

Claims 1-18 are pending.

The Examiner objects to the form of the listing of components, particularly with respect to component (B). With respect to component (B), Ar₁ can be C₆-C₂₀aryl, C₆-C₂₀aryl or C₃-C₉heteroaryl. The form of the claim is space efficient and sufficiently clear for one skilled in the art to understand. The other aspects of the claim are formalistic in nature that doesn't diminish the clarity of the claims. Applicants request that the Examiner reconsider and withdraw her 112(2) rejection of claims 1-18.

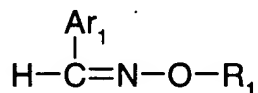
The Examiner rejects claims 1-10, 12-16 and 18 under 35 U.S.C. 102 as being anticipated by U.S. Pat. No. 4,282,309 ("Laridon"). The Examiner rejects claim 17 under 35 U.S.C. 103 as being unpatentable over Laridon. Presumably, claim 11, which requires the presence of an epoxy compound in the photosensitive composition, is allowable over the prior art.

The Examiner asserts that Laridon teaches a photosensitive composition suitable for the production of polymer resist images comprising an ethylenically unsaturated compound, at least one oxime ester photopolymerization initiator, and at least one sensitizer. The Examiner alleges that the compound of formula:



particularly when R₃ is hydrogen meets all of the elements of claim 1. Applicants respectfully traverse these rejections.

The composition of claim 1 contains, relative to the instant reference, at least one compound of formula I:



The definition of Laridon generically encompasses aldoxime compounds but does not actually exemplify such compounds. Certainly no alkaline developable resist formulation using an aldoxime

compound is disclosed. Only ketoxime compounds are used. For this reason, the compositions of Laridon do not anticipate the instantly claimed photosensitive compositions. Applicants request that the Examiner reconsider and withdraw her anticipation rejection of claims 1-10, 12-16 and 18 in view of Laridon.

The fact that only ketoxime compounds are used would lead one away from the idea of trying the claimed aldoxime compounds. Surprisingly, Applicants discovered that the aldoxime compounds are sufficiently reactive, easy to handle, exhibit good resolution, and meet the high industry standards for thermal and storage stability. The compositions have a high sensitivity and resolution, even at low concentrations of photoinitiator. The compositions have good thermal stability and low volatility (page 32, paragraph 3). Laridon could not have suggested such advantages in the absence of any such compounds. For this reason, Applicants submit that the claimed compositions and their use in a color filter (claim 17) are patentable over Laridon. Applicants request that the Examiner reconsider and withdraw her obviousness rejection of claim 17 in view of Laridon.

Applicants submit that the present application is now in condition for allowance. In the event that minor amendments will further prosecution, Applicants request that the Examiner contact the undersigned representative.

Respectfully submitted,



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